

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claim 13 has been withdrawn as being directed to a nonelected invention; Claims 1, 2 and 5-12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being vague and indefinite; Claims 1-3, 7 and 8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Heist in view of Schwab; Claims 9-12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Heist in view of Schwab and further in view of Illy; and Claim 6 has been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 13 has now been canceled and thus, Claims 1-3 and 7-12 remain active.

Considering first then the Examiner's withdrawal of claim 13 as being directed to a nonelected invention, such claim has now been canceled, without prejudice.

As for the rejection of Claims 1, 2 and 5-12 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, it is to be noted that such claims have now been amended for compliance with 35 U.S.C. §112.

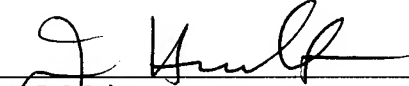
Considering next then the rejection of Claims 1-3, 7 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Heist in view of Schwab and the rejection of Claims 9-12 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Heist in view of Schwab and Illy, it is to be noted that Claim 1 has now been amended to include the allowable subject matter of objected to Claim 6. In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that independent Claim 1 as well as all claims dependent therefrom now merit indication of allowability with the same being hereby earnestly solicited.

Application No. 10/575,106
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In view of the foregoing, an early and favorable Office Action is believed to be in order and the same is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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